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ERT. H. SMITH,

charge of Church Advertising.

THE NINE WHO DID NOT SAY, "THANK YOU."
A preparation for Thanksgiving.

The Thanksgiving Anthem suggested the idea of a preparation for Thanksgiving.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan the lesson of Charity is most impressively taught. The uncharitableness of the priest and levite ofwho charity would naturally be expected is set in sharp contrast to the kindly acts of the Samaritan of whom nothing was expected.

By the example of another despised Samaritan Jesus teaches us his most impressive leeson in thankfulness.

The story of the healing of the ten lepers. The return of the one, a stranger and a Samaritan, to say "Thank you". Jesus' sad question, "Were there not ten cleansed? Where are the nine?." Lk. 17.17

We learn from this striking story that it is not enough to feel gratitude in our hearts; we we must express it in words and conduct. Gratitude is the natural response to gifts received and mercy shown and is the sole evidence of appreciation.

For our own profit, then, let us endeavor to answer Jesus' question, "Where are the nine?", let us go in search of them, among the motives of human nature, for if we find them, perchance we may save ourselves from a measure of ingratitude to God and man for all the blessings we receive.

Q. One of the nine was Gloomy Gus, who always takes his blessings gloomily. Elizaheth Akers song best illusttates him.

"O willow, why forever weep,
As one who mours an endless wrong?
What hidden woe can lie so deep?
What utter grief can last so long?

"The spring makes haste with steps elate
Your life and beauty to renew;
She even bids the roses wait,
And gives her first sweet care to you.

"The welcome redbreast redbreast folds his wing,
To pour for you his freshest strain;
To you the earliest blue-birds sing,
Till all your light stems thrill again.

"The sunshine drapes your limbs with light,
The rain braids diamonds in your hair,
The breeze makes love to you at night,
But still you droop and still despair.

"Beneath your boughs, at fall of dew,
By lovers' lips is softly told
The tale that all the ages through
Has kept the world from growing old.

"But still, tho April's buds unfold,
Or summer sets the earth aleaf,
Or autumn pranks your robes with gold,
You sway and sigh in graceful grief."

2. The next one I find is a thotless youth. As soon as he found himself healed and felt his blood tingling anew, he leaped in the air with a shout and was off to his own purposes, never stopping to think that he owed Jesus a "Thank you".

3. The third one did not return to say "Thank you" because he was skeptical about the healing. He kept saying to himself, "It is too good to be true." And he decided to wait a year first to find out if it really were true that he was healed. To question God thus is to doubt Him.

4. Number Four said, "I have lost so much time since I have been a leper I must hurry back to work." And so he counted it lost time to go back and thank his healer. Many who, upon receiving a great blessing from God, again take their lives in their own hands to pursue their own purposes instead of sharing their lives and their purposes with the Giver of every good and perfect gift. And, oh, how much they lose in so doing!

3 X

5. No. five was a practical man and hard-headed in his reasoning. He thot it would be displaying foolish sentiment and showing unmanliness if he should go back and say, "Thank you". Ashamed of sentiment! Emotions must be kept hidden, even stifled. Jesus wept. When occasion requires us to show emotion, for us not to do so showns to be inhuman.

6. The sixth one who did not return reasoned that the Rabbi who healed him was too great a man to care for his feeble thanks. He concluded that Jesus would'nt even notice that he had not returned to say thank you But Jesus did notice. Many reason that God too infinite and too busy to notice whether one of His ordinary childn expresses gratitude or not. They take health and strength, healing and wealth, rain and sunshine and crops, protection and care, they take everything that life has to offer without ever thanking God for it all, on the ground that God does'nt care anyhow. But God does care.

7. Number seven said, "So great a blessing deserves more than a "thank you". I will wait until I get rich and then I will buy him a present suitable to express appreciation for such a wonderful gift." How many lose their highest blessings in life just this way.

The story of the young couple in Texas. Shortly after they were married he went into the saloon business. She begged him to give it up but he would not, yet they continued to love each other. He ran his saloon for 20 yrs and all this time she begged him to give it up. Finally it became evident that prohibition was about to pass and this man confidded to a friend that he was glad for he had made his fortune and had seen how his good wife had suffered under it, and now he would retire and build her a lovely home and give her all the pleasures of life. But one week before prohibition went into effect his wife died, broken-hearted but faithful to the last.

8. Number eight said, "I'll wait until some day when there is a great crowd gathered about Jesus, then I'll tell the multitude what he did, and bring large honor upon him." Gratitude is spontanious and must be spoken at once. When the Israelites tried to hoard the manna it spoiled. It is the same with gratitude. Stale thanksgiving is unpalatable. Our hearts should be instant in praise and thanksgiving.

9. The last one made conspicuous by his absence felt very grateful in his heart but imagined that he had not the ability to express it properly.

But Number Ten, not stopping to reason at all, but true to the gratitude of his heart for what Jesus had done for him, came back and falling at Jesus' feet, exclaimed, Oh, thank you, Jesus. Thank you." How the heart of Christ was gladdedened! Bubbling over with joy, the Master replied, "Go thy way, thy faith hath made thee whole."

God teach us the beautiful art of expressing appreciation! If we are sincere, it is all so simple. And how much better this world would be if we would always say, "Thank you". Let us count our many blessings ~~this week, then come next Sunday prepared to~~ and say "Thank you, God." Let us prepare a Thanksgiving offering of some kind and bring it, remembering that Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Mr. Robbins - "We always say grace at our table."

Thankfulness

1. a sin duty.
2. Makes us appreciate the common things
3. Enlarges the blessings received
4. Makes the receiver of gifts more sympathetic + kind + generous
5. Enables us to see some good in every person + in every situation.
6. Best expressed in fellowship one with another and in sharing with others the blessings of life.

facts in leaflet to your Church whether or not it has met its quota. Facts about our church tend to make us feel more as one. Please use facts in these or other ways:

1. Put one fact a week, especially missionary items, in your printed church calendar.
2. Use in same way on homemade poster with picture cut from some magazine.
3. Use in talks in prayer meeting, etc. Your Minute Man may also have received a copy. Consult him.
4. Use facts that appeal most to your people at once as basis of news story for local papers.

Thanks!

HERBERT. H. SMITH,

In charge of Church Advertising.